

R E M A R K S

The Office Action of July 14, 2006 has been reviewed and its contents carefully noted. Reconsideration of this case, as amended, is earnestly requested. Claims 1-20 and 25-26 are pending in the application, claims 21-24 being cancelled and claim 1 being amended and new claim 26 being added by this response. The amendment of claim 1 and new claim 26 are supported throughout the specification and by the original claims. No new matter has been added, and no excess claim fee is due.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's statement that claims 10-20 and 25 are allowed.

Objection to Claims 2-9

Claims 2-9 were objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, however, the Examiner states that claims 2-9 would be allowable, if rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully submits that the objection is overcome by the amendment of claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 2-9 are therefore respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC section 103(a) as being obvious over "TeleCribbing Struts" (cited in Applicant's IDS) in view of the prior art discussed in Applicant's specification. Claim 1 is hereby amended to overcome the rejection.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome by the amendment of claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC section 103(a) as being obvious is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes the claims are patentable over the prior art, and that this case is in condition for allowance of all claims therein. Such action is thus respectfully requested. If the Examiner disagrees, or believes for any other reason that direct contact with Applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of the case to finality, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

"Recognizing that Internet communications are not secured, I hereby authorize the PTO to communicate with me concerning any subject matter of this application by electronic mail. I understand that a copy of these communications will be made of record in the application file."

Respectfully submitted,
Cris E. Pasto

Dated: August 16, 2006

By: /Thomas T. Aquilla/

Thomas T. Aquilla
Registration No. 43,473
(603) 253-9474
Aquilla Patents & Marks, PLLC
221 Coc Hill Road
Center Harbor, NH 03226